(a) whether any Techno-Economic Feasibility Report on a project for extending supply of piped gas to 30,000 consumers, both domestic and industrial, in and around Agartala has been submitted by the TNGCL to ONGCL for equity participation to the tune of Rs. 5 crores and for participation of GAIL in the project;

(b) if so, what is the latest development in this regard; and

(c) by when GAIL is expected to complete the work of laying 200 M.M. pipe lines, along the 7 KM stretch from Dukli to Jawahar Bridge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (c) While ONGC has suggested that it does not have the required expertise in city gas distribution system, the proposal has been examined by GAIL. However, laying of the pipeline is dependent on finalisation of the terms and conditions between GAIL and TNGCL for gas supply.

**Constant Fall in the Production of Oil**

4968. SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether country's oil production continues to fall short of target by around 10 million tonnes in the eight plan period;

(b) if so, whether the fall is of the same amount in the current plan;

(c) whether ONGC's oil production is constantly falling;

(d) whether any Review Committee was set up last year to find out the reasons for short fall;

(e) if so, whether the report has been submitted; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) The targets and

production of crude oil during the period 1992—97 and during the period 1997—2000 were as under:—

(figs. in MMT)

| Period | Target# | Achievement | Shortfall in achievement of target |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1992-93 to 1996-97 | 160.49 | 154.281 | 6.209 |
| 1997-98 to 1999-2000 | 101.77 | 98.555* | 3.215 |

Provisional

#Memorandum of Understanding targets in respect of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL).

MMT: Million Metric Tonne

(c) The production of crude oil by ONGC has declined during 1997-98 to 1999-2000 as under:—

| Year | Production (MMT) |
|---|---|
| 1997-98 | 28.250 |
| 1998-99 | 26.387 |
| 1999-2000 | 24.695 |

(d) to (f) No, Sir. However, Government had set up a Committee in 1996 to look, interalia, into the reasons for shortfall in production. The main recommendations of the Committee included:—

(i) Management of reservoir health

(ii) Enhancement of oil production both in the medium term and long term basis from Bombay High.

(iii) Undertaking of some pilot projects which may be extended to fields later on.

(iv) Closure of certain wells with high gas oil ratio.

(v) Organisational re-structuring of ONGC.